

REMARKS

In light of the previous amendments and following remarks, favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

The Applicants and their representative would like to thank Examiner Prebilic for the time and courtesy he extended to the undersigned in a telephone interview on Tuesday, March 7. During the interview, possible amendments to the claims, including the presently presented amendments, were discussed. The Examiner stated that the presently presented amendments should place claims 10, 11 and 13-15 in condition for allowance. Examiner Prebilic felt that proposed amendments to other claims (now cancelled) would require additional search of the art.

In the Office Action, claims 10, 11 and 13-15 were objected to. The amendment of independent claim 10 is understood to overcome this objection.

Claims 1-9 and 16-40 have been cancelled. The cancellation of these claims does not reflect any belief of the Applicants as to any lack of patentability of these claims, and Applicants reserve the right to reassert these claims in a continuation application filed under 35 U.S.C. § 1.53(b).

It is believed that the present application is in complete condition for allowance and favorable action, is therefore requested. Examiner Prebilic is invited and encouraged to telephone the undersigned, however, should any issues remain after consideration of this Response.

Please charge any additional fees required by this Response to Deposit Account No. 04-1403.

Respectfully submitted,

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